



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

Raised Bill No. 272

LCO No. 1654

01654_____GL_

Referred to Committee on General Law

Introduced by:
(GL)

AN ACT CONCERNING SHORTHAND REPORTERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 20-656 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

3 (a) The board, after a hearing conducted in accordance with chapter
4 54 and regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of section 21a-9
5 of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes, may suspend or revoke
6 the license of a shorthand reporter if the holder of such license: (1) Has
7 been convicted of a felony, provided the board considers the factors
8 contained in section 46a-80, or (2) has been found by the board of: (A)
9 Gross incompetence, (B) malpractice, (C) unethical conduct, (D)
10 knowingly making a false, misleading or deceptive representation
11 relating to his or her work as a shorthand reporter, or (E) violating any
12 regulation adopted pursuant to this chapter.

13 (b) Any person who has had a license suspended or revoked
14 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section may reapply to the board for
15 reinstatement of such person's license immediately after the license
16 suspension period has elapsed or not later than ninety days after the

17 license has been revoked.

18 (c) In addition to any action that may be taken by the board
19 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section or subsection (c) of section
20 21a-9 of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes, the board may
21 suspend or revoke the license of a shorthand reporter under
22 subdivision (7) of section 21a-7 for:

23 (1) Failing to deliver a transcript to a client or a court in a timely
24 manner;

25 (2) Producing an incomplete transcript, except upon the order of a
26 court, agreement of the parties or request of a party;

27 (3) Failing to charge all parties or their attorneys the same rate for
28 like services performed in a proceeding, including any charge for a
29 copy of the transcript;

30 (4) Failing to notify all parties or their attorneys of a request for all
31 or part of a transcript in sufficient time for copies to be prepared and
32 delivered to such parties or attorneys simultaneously with the delivery
33 of the original request;

34 (5) (A) Giving, directly or indirectly, any gift, incentive, reward or
35 other thing of value to an attorney, the attorney's clients, or the
36 representatives or agents of such attorney or clients, or (B) directly or
37 indirectly benefiting from or being employed as a result of any gift,
38 incentive, reward or other thing of value given by any person to an
39 attorney, the attorney's clients, or the representatives or agents of such
40 attorney or clients;

41 (6) The reporting of any proceeding where the licensed shorthand
42 reporter is a relative of a party to the proceeding or an attorney
43 representing a party to the proceeding within the second degree by
44 affinity or consanguinity; or

45 (7) The reporting of any proceeding where the licensed shorthand

46 reporter has a financial interest in the proceeding or is associated with
47 a firm which has a financial interest in the proceeding.

48 (d) A shorthand reporter licensed pursuant to this chapter shall
49 display his or her shorthand reporter license number on any business
50 card, stationery, transcript, advertisement or other document used by
51 such reporter and pertaining to his or her practice of shorthand
52 reporting.

53 (e) The board may, after a hearing conducted in accordance with
54 chapter 54 and regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of
55 section 21a-9 of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes, impose a
56 civil penalty of not more than one thousand dollars on any person who
57 violates any provision of this chapter or any regulation adopted
58 pursuant to this chapter or impose such civil penalty on any person
59 who wilfully employs or supplies for employment or as an
60 independent contractor a person who engages in the practice of
61 shorthand reporting in this state in violation of section 20-652.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2008	20-656
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Statement of Purpose:

To grant expanded revocation and suspension powers and to allow the State Board of Examiners of Shorthand Reporters to impose civil penalties.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]